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September 01 - 15, 2000 Back-to-School Issue

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See page 3 and back cover

Kavanagh Resigns

by Allan Stokell

Monique Kavanagh, Manager of Student Services for the Student Association of George Brown College (SA), has resigned to take a position in private industry.

Kavanagh is well known at the College as someone with a powerful personality and iron will.

Her responsibilities included planning and implementing orientation programmes such as Bright Lights Big City and Rock the Block.

It was her influence that caused the SA to move the September Orientation from the Toronto Islands to

our own streets near our campuses. This move made the programme more accessible to all students and encouraged our sense of community.

She also worked tirelessly to start up the Life Works office here at the College, upgraded the foodbank services to students, worked with student committees and trained and evaluated staff.

Kavanagh, who is known to often break out singing a show tune, or dance down the hallways displaying her unique style of choreography, also supervised the Dialog Collective and The Source Student Guide

and Planner committee.

Dr. Janet Morrison, former Executive Director of the Student Association spoke at a going away reception. She described Kavanagh saying "Monique is unique!"

At times Kavanagh's will clashed with members of the College administration. Her desire to offer the highest quality customer service to the students of the college however, made her a popular figure with students.

She challenged her employees to their best and would not brook incompetence, dishonesty or slothfulness.

Kavanagh now joins Metrix, a corporate training organization in Toronto.

She will be missed.



Kavanagh

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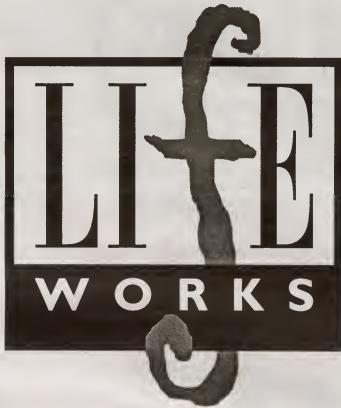
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The Life Works Centre was created to provide students with the necessary space and support to make our college experience successful.

This September, there are several capacities in which students are encouraged to get involved!

Student Placement Opportunities

The Life Works Centre are currently looking for people interested in becoming:

- ✓ Food Bank Coordinators
- ✓ Access Centre Coordinator
- ✓ LGBT Centre Coordinator
- ✓ Women Centre Coordinators

Volunteer Opportunities

We urge you to participate in Life Works initiatives by becoming volunteers. Volunteer positions vary from administrative to community outreach driven. Volunteer Training begins September 12th.

Please contact the Life Works Centre at 416-415-2846 for further information.

Thank you for your continued support.

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OPINION

WHY I AM A HARM REDUCTIONIST

By: Boni

What Is Harm Reduction?

Harm reduction is a socio-political movement geared towards assisting those who are marginalized by society. This includes mental health survivors, the homeless, those who use/abuse substances and those living in poverty. It is based on the concept of improving the health, emotional, mental and physical of those mentioned above in whatever fashion they are capable of accepting and implementing. It is accepting clients at the level they function and assisting them in having their basic human needs met without a judgement on the behaviours that social, medical and moral models see as harmful.

Who Are the People Involved in Harm Reduction?

Harm Reductionists are nurses, doctors, counsellors, street outreach workers, current and ex-substance users, poverty activists, housing advocates, lawyers and others who work with marginalized people attempting to improve the quality of their living conditions. Every harm reduction worker I have ever encountered can also be found at protests, rallies and other functions advocating the rights of the disenfranchised. Any place or person who claims

to advocate harm reduction but is not agitating politically cannot be accurately titled a "harm reductionist". Any program stating a "harm reduction" policy that has an agenda promoting agency compliance (do it our way or we refuse to help you) is not harm reduction.

What Does Harm Reduction Consist Of?

Harm reduction in basic terms consists of providing to clients whatever will make their lives healthier. This includes providing needle exchange kits, silver bullet crack pipes, condoms, lubrication, food, shelter, housing, food, counselling and instructions around implementing healthier practices and support.

Why Support Harm Reduction?

According to IDDUIT, the drug user's union's recent survey, almost 40% of crack cocaine users regardless of injection or pipe use have Hepatitis C, a deadly liver disease that is contagious. Almost 20% have HIV. These figures are considered to be lower than actual percentages since not all drug users have been tested. Tuberculosis and contagious pneumonia are also rampant. It is unknown how many homeless and marginalized people have contracted

serious illness due to substandard living conditions. If you have ever found yourself or someone else you care about in a marginalized position, even for a brief period of time, it is easy to understand why reducing the harm becomes so imperative. We need to get away from moral judgement and understand all members of society are still citizens of this country with needs that must be filled.

Why I Support Harm Reduction:

I cannot, in all good conscience, watch marginalized people dying as if we live in a third world country. We have the means to seriously address the needs of the homeless, poverty-ridden single mothers, the sex trade workers, the hard-to-house, the mental health survivors, the substance users and others who find themselves outcasts in society.

Conclusion-The Debate Rages:

"Why doesn't that young guy I saw just get a job?" Firstly, if the possible the young man is quite ill from one of the above stated diseases. Secondly, on minimum wage there's a really good chance that he can't pay his rent and buy food. Thirdly, if he is young-he has no job experience and no stable home so how is he going to be consistent on a job? That doesn't even include the fact

he has no telephone access so an employer can't call him to tell him he's hired.

"Aren't you supporting drug abuse, laziness, the sex trade etc. etc.?" In this society those results of poverty are the REALITY. I don't tell people "Hey here's a really good crack pipe why don't you go check out a crack buzz for fun?" What I do is try to keep people ALIVE. Dead people don't make decisions.

And if you don't like any of those arguments null this one over. I've never met anyone who hasn't had at least one runaway in his or her family-even if only for a few months. How would you like your brother/sister/cousin/friend/child coming home at the end of their little downtown adventure to die slowly and painfully? Wouldn't you be glad if a harm reduction outreach worker came along THEN to keep them safe until they're home again?

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Canada

Creating a Space: Introducing the Life Works Centre

By Sharon Kamassa

The word space may imply many concepts yet has been bandied around so much in everyday, ordinary conversation that in many ways it has lost its meaning and significance. "I need some space", has become a catch phrase slipping through our lips usually in direct response to our ever growing need to run

Space: A continuous, unlimited space

Using the college environment as an example of public space, much can be said for it's limitless possibilities. Our community is unique. It is comprised of people from every imaginable background, aspiration, way of living and loving linked together by our conscious

devotion of time and attention to gaining knowledge. Continuous learning, continuous turnover, and continuous change are the only constants that apply to this community.

This said, the need to create specific spaces

members the opportunity to self define and assert one's collective rights.

Space: Time spent to reflect or relax

Space to experiment and discover other ways of being is essential to any developmental process. It is not enough to gather information. For that information to bear any significance it must be considered, it must be tested, it must be used. Can you imagine being in a school environment devoid of common or quiet areas? An institution where there were only a depot system established where written and audio material could be withdrawn and returned thus there weren't any table or chairs in which to rest or review material received? Where all other interactions were strictly prohibited? We can never take for granted having a place where we can freely discuss issues, concerns and have access to fairly current resources. We can never deem having rest places unnecessary if we believe in the rejuvenating power of stop time and self care. Nor can we rest in assurance that we have reached the pinnacle of what learning institutions may provide in this type of space.

Space: Area designated, required and available for some purpose

By providing designated space to meet the needs of many of our student constituencies we are meeting the need for stop time, safe space and encouraging

students to bond and unite.

The Student Association is proud to present the Life Works Centre!!

The Life Works Centre is a brainchild of students and supporters who recognized the need to create a distinctive space at GBC. We value diversity and appreciate the need to reflect all that comprise the student population. The Life Works Centre is geared to provide students with the essential assistive mechanisms to make our school experience successful ones. The following services are provided:

- * Food Banks
- * Legal Advice
- * Access Centre
- * LGBT Centre
- * Club space
- * Student Association Volunteer and Student Placement Training

The official launching of the Life Centre will be in October. Further details will soon be released.

September volunteer training for all of the Student Association will be conducted through the Life Works Centre. Please call the Life Works Manager for specific dates at 416-415-2846.

We strongly encourage you to participate in the initiatives of the Life Works. After all, this is your space!



faster, play harder, take on more and stress ourselves to the point that we need to step back and re-evaluate. But is this all that space affords, a step backwards? Does space have nothing else to offer? Is space really relevant? Based on it's literal and inferred definitions, I will allow you to be the judge.

within a space has been raised time and time again in our classrooms, student services, governing bodies and open forums. Our need to celebrate our differences and share our common interests has moved us to form circles where we may better affirm and support one another. These spaces have made available tools of empowerment that have allowed

Student Association
BY GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE
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CHAPTERS GOES TO COLLEGE

In the little big town of Timmins, Ontario, just a hop, skip and snort from Toronto's new dump in New Liskeard, big things are happening with a little college bookstore.

Chapters Campus Bookstores Inc has opened a new shop right inside the Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology.

Sources within the College wishing to remain anonymous said the move stemmed from the students' desire to have a bookstore that actually stocks books that are on their book list and to sell the books at a fair price.

This speaks volumes about providing quality service to the consumer.

No word as to whether there is a Starbucks inside this Chapters.

NEXT DEADLINE FOR DIALOG:

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 08

Volunteers Clean up

by Allan Stokell

What would you do if someone kept dropping litter in your backyard?

Some people might complain to the College, others to the municipality. When all else fails, you might decide to either ignore the worsening litter problem, or get out your gardening gloves, a rake, a broom and some garbage bags and do something about it.

That's just what a dozen or so students did this summer at George Brown College's Casa Loma Campus. They got down and dirty and picked up the litter.

The main trouble area for litter is a stretch of sidewalk and right of way running parallel to MacPherson Avenue, between the main Casa Loma campus buildings and the subway entrance.

The area next to the sidewalk has been left as a natural regeneration area, but some people have been using the stretch as a repository for their garbage.

"We've picked up everything today," says Daniel Bell, Vice President of Casa Loma Campus for the Student Association. "We've even got old car parts."

The Student Association recently met with a local ratepayer group and the College to discuss the situation. Although some left the meeting unclear as to just who was responsible for the mess, most agreed that it should be cleaned up.

As the City of Toronto appeared to be in



no rush to send a work crew, Jodi Shannahan, President of the Student Association, Jessie Chabot, Vice-President-Education, Maureen Mooney, Vice President-Nightingale, Udana Muldoon, Vice-President-St. James and Daniel Bell decided that action was needed,

"It's dirty—let's clean it up!" says Shannahan.

On a hot, humid August morning the volunteer work crew scoured the area and removed 31 green garbage bags full of litter.

The fenced area parallel to the road was once a car park. It is currently not in use but the Student Association are in negotiation with the owner to allow them to use this area for the College orientation program, taking place at Casa Loma Campus on September 08, 2000.

Once approved, the student clean-up crew will return to clean up the property in preparation for the outdoor celebration.

The students plan to lobby the City for litter cans along the route in an effort to keep the area clean.

Don't Miss the Bus— Rock The Block!

By Edwin Huang

So, the summer has now come to an end and the party over right? Wrong, the party has just begun. The Third annual Rock the Block celebration will be held on Friday September 8 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Casa Loma campus of George Brown College. Shuttle buses will be available for students from St. James and Nightingale campuses who wish to attend the event. Your Student Association has worked hard for months to bring you this event. Don't miss out, you'll regret it! This year's entertainment will feature some new and some returning attractions from previous years. Musically speaking, this year appearing will be the rockin' band "Enter the Haggis" and the vocal styling of none other than July Black. This year the music should be slamming as we invade the castle at Casa Loma. In addition the return of the interactive games we all love to watch and participate in the Velcro Wall, Obstacle Course, Gladiator Jousting, and more...!

Free food and drink will be available to fill our tummies after a hectic first week of school. Yummy! Prizes

will be awarded throughout the day—through skill and by luck. Be sure to pick up product samples at the booths during the day. And don't forget the bar to follow!

Rock The Block is a great way to meet fellow faculty and students in a fun environment. Following a week of rearranging class schedules, lining up for EVERYTHING, and just plain being stressed out, it is time to de-stress and blow off some steam.

The annual event has been organized by the Student Association with the great support from the President's Office, the Office of the Vice-President of Academic Affairs, the Vice-President of Corporate Services and External Relations, and the George Brown College Foundation, as well as many others in the school who have given cash, prizes, and time to the Rock The Block celebration.

I hope everyone will take advantage of this opportunity to meet some new people and learn about what GBC has to offer in addition to academics. Join in the celebration—by the time you know it, it will be time for mid-terms... Get on the bus while it is here!

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Welcome Back;

Here's what you need to know...

by Jeff Baldock

Welcome and welcome back. I know that summer comes and goes so quickly but school is now starting again. Being here at George Brown College is an opportunity for you to continue moving toward a successful career goal. To assist you toward your goal, the staff in both Career and Employment Services and Counselling Services at George Brown College encourages you to use our services. We arrange for tutoring as well as provide career and personal counselling. We can give you assistance with your study skills, resume writing, identifying your career goal and sorting through various other career or personal challenges.

Everyone who sets out to achieve a

goal experiences excitement. Along the way, there will be obstacles as there are with any goal we set out to achieve. Going through a college program is intended to be a challenge. To meet this challenge, you, like thousands of students before, will need help along the way. Among the many services offering help at George Brown College, both Career and Employment Services and Counselling Services can assist you to get over obstacles and move you closer to your goal of graduating.

We all need other people to help us achieve our goals. We need other people who have expertise to help us move toward our goals. This is the information age. It's impossible to be an expert on everything. Why knock your head against the wall with a school, career or personal problem when there is expertise

that can save you time and stress.

Struggling with your career goal? How could this be? After all you are in a program you chose so you must know what you want. Being in a college program and being clear about where you want to go once you are finished are different. The difference is that career goals require a different type of thinking from that need to achieve in school courses. Research overwhelmingly shows that students with clearer career goals perform better in school. Our counsellors can help you clarify your goals.

So you see, the information age means that we do not need to be experts on everything to move ahead and achieve our dreams. We simply need to be willing to ask others who are skilled or knowledgeable in an area where we need assistance.

Come and visit us. We have offices at

both the Casa Loma Campus off the cafeteria, in the fifth floor, room 582C at the St. James Campus and in room 105 at the Nightingale Campus. We're here to help.

Dream big, set goals, take action, have fun and ask for assistance when you meet an obstacle and I assure you that you will fulfill more of your potential than you ever imagined.

Jeff Baldock is currently working with Student Affairs in Career and Employment Services. He has over 12 years experience in career and personal counseling in education and corporate settings. He is the author of an audio book entitled "Soaring to Success". Jeff has been CTV's Canadian Living, TV Ontario, and Rogers TV as a career expert.

ROCK THE BLOCK CASA LOMA CAMPUS FRIDAY SEPT 08



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RELATIONSHIPS

Torrid Love

Dear Torri,

I'm unsure what to think about or do with a particular situation that happened to me.

I was seeing someone a while ago and it was a casual relationship. We only went out twice before we had sex, and continued to see each other for about three months. Whenever we had sex it was wonderful. She verbalized (and vocalized) this to me, and we would hold each other afterwards for up to three hours sometimes. But one night after having sex at her place, she got up without a word, left the room, and closed the door. She never came back!

We hung out a bit in the morning but I had to go because she had things to do. I didn't try talking to her about, but with the nature of our relationship, I'm not sure if she owed me an explanation either.

What do you think?

Unsure

Dear Unsure,

I'm confused. Didn't you say you were ditched at her place? And that you saw her in the morning? Where the hell did she go all night or were you indulging in a little morning schpach (well done, it's always a favourite way to wake up)?

As I always say, don't assume you know why someone behaves in a certain manner. The only way you'll know is to ask her. It could be that she had to go to the bathroom real bad so she took off like a shot and it turned out to be more than she bargained for, if you know what I mean, thus delaying her return. It could be that she remembered a brunch date with her cousin and his new beau from

Cleveland. It could be that she loves having sex with you but just doesn't like you or the touchy feely shit she's had to put up with. Or it could be that:

a) "casual" is an occasional shag over an extended period of time

b) "casual" is

NOT shagging on a regular basis for three months

and she's scared to death because the relationship is venturing outside of the original parameters you mutually set. She may feel herself wanting more from you and be afraid to ask OR she may have been using you for great sex and is now turfing you like the well read morning paper.

You certainly have the right to ask her what's up. It makes sense to ask her if she's in or out so you can call it quits or get back to the in and out.

Best of luck,

Found Love Advice **5¢**



Torri

He llo
Torri,

Here's my problem, if it's even a problem. I have a problem with my penis. There are these tiny bumps on the underside of it that are only noticeable when I my penis becomes erect. At first I thought it

may be a sexually transmitted disease (STD), but then when I reviewed my sexual history and realized I have none...I thought that another opinion may be needed.

Here's the clincher though...this is why I chose to write you and not see a doctor right away. When I masturbate, and I am rubbing my penis, these bumps become extremely stimulated. At times I can rub them until the point of ejaculation. When I do this, the ejaculation and sensation is near quadrupled in intensity. So mind you I'm not really complaining.

Is this a natural occurrence? I have checked other penises - in books only,

remember, no action here - and I haven't found anything like this. Am I part reptile or something? I really hope you can help me here because I would really like to have sex again and not be referred to as Iguana boy.

Thanx Torri,
The Loaded Lizard

Hey Lizzie,

Are these bumps grotesque? Have you had people look at them and jump away in horror? If not, don't worry about them. It can never hurt to see a doctor when you've got a question but I don't know that you've got a problem here-I think you've simply got a dick that hasn't had enough attention paid to it.

Checking books is a good thing in that it's always smart to understand your body. Checking books is a bad thing is that the pictures rarely represent a true to life, non-glossy dick pic. It's a shame you don't have anyone who would let you take a good look at their cock because they are truly glorious specimens. You will find everything from throbbing veins to tiny hairs, goose bumpy shafts to egg smooth domes. They vary in shape, size, texture and utility. Without knowing more about the bumps it's hard to say what's up exactly but I'd venture to say that you simply have a fabulously responsive buddy who's trying to show you the way to bliss by outlining a particularly erogenous area for you.

If they change size or shape go to the doctor. Pronto. Otherwise, say a little internal "thinks buddy" and get to it.

Lucky you,
Torri

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SPORTS

Sports Action Time

by Gregory Vicaria

You've got your OSAP arranged, you know where you'll be living, you've chosen your electives.

What about the rest of the time? George Brown College has a number of Varsity and Intermural sports that you can join in on.

Think about Women's Outdoor Soccer, Men's Outdoor soccer, Baseball, Cross Country and Alpine Skiing, Badminton, Men's Baseball, Women's Basketball, Men's Volleyball, Men's Indoor Soccer or Women's Indoor Soccer. In this teams you will get to compete with some of the best college athletes in the province and do some travelling at the same time.

Intermural Teams play within the College and there are three team Divisions; Men's League, Women's Team and Co-ed League. These teams include Non-Contact Ball Hockey, Badminton, Indoor Soccer, Table Tennis, Indoor Soccer, 3-on-3 Baseball, 3-on-3 Volleyball, Table Tennis, Basketball, and Co-ed Volleyball.

Registration starts Tuesday September 5, so go to your nearest GBC gymnasium for

more information, or check out the posters on the Athletics Department Bulletin Boards on the St. James and Casa Loma campuses.



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Apply at the Dialog Collective, room
167B SJ at 1:00pm on Thursday
September 7

SPORTS

10 Biking Commandments

by Jake the Biker

So punters, you've managed to survive a summer of biking in the big city. Great! I'm about ready to head to Europe on my trusty two-wheeler (carried free as baggage by airlines), so I can write a story for Agent, that great new mag that will be inserted in Dialog, and other Canadian University Press papers starting in October.

In the mean time I'll just update you about what shit is going down concerning our bikes here at the College. At the beginning of August the guards changed at GBC, and now we have new security. This usually means that the new storm troopers will start tagging bikes not locked up in designated areas.

I've had two bikes stolen while I've been at the College, so I think I've got some back road info that security needs to know.

I'm not going locking up at Frederick Street at the St. James campus 'cause it is not secure. I lock up outside the Dialog Collective office on George Street. The fact that a thousand people at day enter there and it is a popular smoking joint for addicts makes it

secure.

If you want me to park in a cycle parking area it must be secure. George Brown College, in the centre of the city known as the bike theft capital of North America does not offer secured parking. Duhh?

means weeks of inconvenience. Buy a \$50 lock for a \$100 bike.)

2. Thou shall not ride on the sidewalk. 'Nuff said. Sidewalks are for pedestrians.

3. Thou shall watch out for jerks. Most jerks own SUVs (aka: Urban Assault

Vehicles) The CDs on high, the brains in neutral. See Commandment four.

4. Thou shall be LOUD. Yell, kick, honk a 130DB horn. Let everyone know you are coming through.

5. Thou shall not covet your neighbours speed. Some people bike fast. You should bike safe.

6. Thou shall wear a helmet. Don't be a jerk: Brain dead is no good. Wear a helmet that fits.

7. Thou shall dress for the occasion. Shorts and t-shirt are great for hot days. If you plan to bike 12 or even 6 months a year, make sure you dress appropriately.

8. Thou shall obey the

Highway Traffic Act.

9. Thou shall follow the bicycle path. Biking on major arteries puts you in contact with cars. Live long and prosper: Take bike paths if possible.

10. Thou shall join a user group. The City Cycling Committee always needs new members. Think globally; bike locally.

While I'm chillin' in Kent, I offer these ten commandments. Not offered by nutbar

Charlton Heston, but by someone in touch with reality.

So now you've got a bike. Great! How long will you use it and how long will you

keep it? It all depends on the 10 commandments of biking.

1. Thou shall lock thy bike. (Just ten seconds in the convenience store



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TRAVEL

Prestbury Tales—A Walk in the Graveyard

by Penelope Hyde-Jones

If you can believe Valene Brahnholz, author of 'A Guide to Prestbury', this quaint village is "the most haunted village in Britain". Mind you, during the course of my trip to Britain, I came across one other burg making the same claim and at least three pubs claiming to be "the oldest in England". One also claimed to be haunted. Prestbury, or Prestebere as it was once called means "fortified settlement of the priests" a moniker it has held from at least the 9th century. It is situated on the edge of the Cotswolds, that charming hilly countryside full of historic wool towns and sleepy thatched villages. During the English civil war, Cromwell maintained a garrison here and this is the source of much of the hauntings that go on in this quiet village.

One of the "old Families" of the village are the Capels, who's relatives sat in judgement of Mary, Queen of Scots. Cromwell's troops took revenge on Henry Capel because he remained loyal to King Charles I. His stately home was recently renovated as a country club. It

was difficult to keep workers on the site, as they complained of a ghost in one of the upstairs garrets. Old Henry stills pokes around looking for those who abused him.

We got an in-your-face introduction to local legends courtesy of our hostess Veronique, who walked us on a windy October eve through the local graveyard towards "The Plow", an excellent Real Ale pub that may or may not be haunted. The local habits could not agree about whether their pub was, or was not haunted but, they could agree that it is situated on a road that decidedly is haunted.

It seems that during the Civil War, a Cavalier, rode at night carrying news of the defeat at the Battle of Worcester. In those days, one way of keeping people from passing unnoticed at night was to sling a rope across the road at rider height. The idea was to bring down the rider, without injuring the steed. This night the rope must have been extra high or the rider extra low, because the rope took the rider head off. To this day on some autumn evenings, locals

hear the sound of horses' hooves on the

road. They stop in full gallop at the very spot.

Think that's spooky? On Shaw Green Lane nearby, horses and dogs for centuries have balked at one spot. In 1901, road construction revealed the shallow grave of a man whose skeleton still had an arrow in his chest.

At Sundial Cottage, built in 1672, residents report the ghost of a lady dressed in white who plays an instrument. She is often heard on warm summer evenings. Walnut Cottage, originally a coach house is haunted by "Old Moses" a groom murdered in the lofts when it was a stable. It is reported that Reform Cottage has a haunted front garden. Many locals report the presence of a hooded monk tending the herb garden.

And so it goes. For or as many ancient buildings as there are in Prestbury, it seems that there are at least one report of a corresponding ghost.

So here we are for the second night walking through St. Mary's churchyard heading towards The Plough, ever mindful that each step we take may take us over the grave of the souls who have lived for the past two millennia on God's

green earth. This time Veronique has brought a torch, so we light our way between the grave stones.

It's a warm night for late October and two of the local lads are celebrating their luck at the ponies the some smelly cuba cigars, so we sit outside in the courtyard. The Plow serves its' best Real Ales on gravity, so it's easy to tell what's on tap because the barrel is behind the bar, propped up on a rakish angle to assure that the contents, not the leers are served. We gaze around the starry sky without talking and soon another couple join us. Refugees from Fidel Castro's ultimate revenge. They live nearby and have stories to tell of simple country life and the ghosts that now make up part of their history.

When you travel, you relish a moment like this. It's the reason I leave my home every few years and travel. I don't go to stay in "world class" five star hotels, or to eat at 3 star Michelin restaurants.

Some of my best times have been had, like this evening, with ordinary people enjoying their extra-ordinary surroundings.

Cheers!

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ENTERTAINMENT

The need to direct

By Steve Lillebuen

EDMONTON (CUP) - Anne Wheeler is one of Canada's top filmmakers, directing such films as *Bye, Bye Blues* and *Better Than Chocolate*.

So how did this University of Alberta student with no training in film become so successful?

"What fed my film making more than anything was that I spent three years on the road when I was in my 20s and getting a bigger sense of the world," said the math and music graduate.

"To be a good director, you need to have a sense of the real world. The greater your experience, the better a filmmaker you'll be because you have more to say."

Wheeler is a prime example of a self-made filmmaker - someone who has done most of the major roles behind the camera and performed in front as well.

While she was living in Edmonton, she made short films with a group of friends for a few years and they alternated the roles they performed for each film.

Wheeler says that it was these abilities that allowed her to understand the medium.

"I can't imagine going into directing without having a good sense of all the other departments," she said.

The majority of a director's job opportunities will come from past projects. A director's resume is the work that they have done, not necessarily his or her education.

"In this business, it's more what you have under your arm, rather than the degree you have," she said. "[Directing] is a medium where you should watch a lot of movies, rather than read a lot of books."

While her approach worked for her generation, she does recommend film schools as a needed opportunity in today's film industry.

But film schools are expensive ventures: Vancouver Film School, for instance, has a tuition of over \$8,000 for eight months of training.

That training would be adequate enough to understand the medium on the

technical side, but the creative aspects come from life experience.

The major question that plagues a Canadian director is whether or not to make the move to the United States. It's a decision that every director must make, and there is not right or wrong answer. Staying in Canada means the possibility of fighting for funding for your films.

For Wheeler this couldn't be more true.

"Funding is a huge problem," she said. "We don't have a lot of money to promote our films and we depend on word of mouth, and that comes fairly slowly, so it's hard to compete against the American movies."

This is a problem that Wheeler has had to deal with repeatedly.

"I have had many opportunities to go to the States, and I have personally chosen to stay here because I feel that in the long run, the quality of my work has been pretty good and I have had a fair amount of control over my projects," she said. "It's way more competitive in LA, but it is more likely that you'll get onto a film of high profile there."

Making a movie should be the first step for any director. This can be on a wide variety of formats, and if *The Blair Witch Project* is a testament to anything, it's that film and video are merging.

Wheeler suggests young director wannabes get a hold of a camera.

"Think of a smart idea and make a

movie. These days, you can make one for fairly cheap."

There are many film festivals that display amateur video, and there are organizations that focus on developing filmmakers. These are great starting places to get connections and recognition.

Wheeler is currently working on her next film, *Marine Life*, due out this summer.

"What people don't realize is that there are a lot of other roles in the film industry than just directing. There are a lot of exciting jobs in the industry."

ANNE WHEELER
Notable Filmography

Marine Life (2000)
Better Than Chocolate (1999)
Da Vinci's Inquest (1998)
The Sleep Room (1998)
Cold Squad (1998)
The War Between Us (1995)
Other Women's Children (1993)
The Diviners (1993)
Angel Square (1990)
Bye, Bye Blues (1989)
Cowboys Don't Cry (1988)
Loyalties (1986)
The Ray Bradbury Theatre (1985)
A War Story (1981)
Great Grand Mother (1975)

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ENTERTAINMENT

It's Movie Season

Hello to all of our returning and new fans! He and She are back once again to enlighten and engage you with our take on the good, the bad, and the down right ugly that Hollywood is dishing up for us this cinematic season. Generally you can expect to see reviews from both She and myself printed here, but alas, She could not be with us this issue due to an unfortunate incident involving some crazy coffee beans and a rather randy Submarine sandwich! Oh the humanity! But enough of She and on with the slaughter!

The Cell

Starring: Jennifer Lopez, Vincent D'Onofrio and Vince Vaughn
Directed by: Tarsem Singh

It's very difficult to enter into this review and expect impartiality from the reader, because literally everyone is talking about this movie. In various ways, The Cell has become one of the biggest surprises this summer. The plot, which becomes more and more unimportant as the film progresses, centers

around the mind of a Psychopath played by D'Onofrio. It's really a first hand account of how the killers mind works when a Psychologist, played by Lopez, actually enters that mind. And that's all well and good, but the true brilliance of this movie comes in the form of some of the most visually stunning scenes ever presented on film. Extensively creative and elaborate sets mixed with long flowing strands and pockets of material, matched against a cascade of intensely vivid and lush colors with a whispering and trembling use of sound makes The Cell a creative and technical marvel. Director Tarsem Singh has brought us true art on film and never once spared the story or the acting to do it. Will Hollywood ever recover???

Grade: A

He's Best & Worst of the Summer
(movies released May 1 through to August 31)

The Best of Summer

- 1.Gladiator
- 2.X-Men
- 3.Chicken Run
- 4.The Cell
- 5.Scary Movie

The Worst of Summer

- 1.Hollowman
- 2.The Perfect Storm
- 3.Me, Myself & Irene
- 4.The In Crowd
- 5.Mission Impossible 2

Upcoming releases...

SEPTEMBER 8
Nurse Betty
The Way of the Gun

SEPTEMBER 15
Bait

SEPTEMBER 22
Beautiful
Chain of Fools
Urban Legends: The Final Cut

SEPTEMBER 29
Almost Famous
Girlyfight
Remember The Titans



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